

Message Text

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: 70TH SESSION FAO COUNCIL, NOVEMBER 29-OCTOBER 10, 1976

REF: (A) STATE 237923, (B) ROME 15439

1. DISCUSSED OUR DESIRE FOR SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS FOR TWO FAO COUNCIL ITEMS SUGGESTED BY USG RATHER THAN SUB-ITEMS PER REFTEL A. PRESENT SITUATION IS THAT AGENDA HAS BEEN INTERNALLY DISTRIBUTED AND IS IN PROCESS OF BEING MAILED. AGENDA AS DISTRIBUTED IS DESCRIBED REFTEL B AND NEW ANNOTATED AGENDA APPROVED BY DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON SEPTEMBER 28 APPROVES SUB-ITEMS COVERING USG SUGGESTIONS. QUOTE: 4. STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, 1976: FOR DISCUSSION (CL 70/2) INCLUDING: - REVIEW OF MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO REDUCE POST HARVEST LOSSES: FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION (CL 70/...). 6. REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY, ROME, APRIL 5-9, 1976: FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION (CL 70/10) INCLUDING: - REVIEW OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE: FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION (CL 70/...). END QUOTE. DECAPRONA HAS SCHEDULED ONE-HALF DAY OF COUNCIL TO EACH OF THESE AGENDA ITEMS.

2. LEGAL OBLIGATION OF FAO TO MAIL OUT PROVISIONAL AGENDA 60

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DAYS BEFORE COUNCIL MAKES ANY CHANGE IMPOSSIBLE BY DEADLINE OF

SEPTEMBER 29. IF USG INSISTS, THEN DIRECTOR-GENERAL HAS TO ADD U.S. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS AS SEPARATELY NUMBERED ITEMS. THIS WOULD BE DONE BY DIRECTOR-GENERAL MAILING OUT AN AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS NOTING IT WAS DONE AT U.S. REQUEST. DIRECTOR-GENERAL IS NOT OBLIGATED, HOWEVER, TO REVISE EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS AS SUGGESTED REFTEL A, PARA 2. DECAPRONA NOTED A SINGLE ITEM ON ALL COMMITTEE REPORTS TO COUNCIL WAS A GOOD IDEA, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE TO MAKE CHANGES NOW. FURTHERMORE, REPORT OF CCLM ITEM 21 MAY BE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE AS IT WILL COVER VIETNAM, SEE SEPTTEL.

3. WE RECOMMEND THAT USG NOT PURSUE FURTHER SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS FOR SUGGESTED ITEMS. WE HAVE MADE POINT AND FAO WILL ASSURE TIME FOR A FULL DISCUSSION OF U.S. SUGGESTIONS. THERE IS NO LEGAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EMPHASIS ON ITEM VERSUS A SUB-ITEM, AND A WRITTEN REQUEST DEMANDING A NEW AGENDA WITH U.S. ADDITIONS IS PROBABLY NOT BEST WAY TO ASSURE GOOD DISCUSSION IN COUNCIL. PLEASE INSTRUCT. VOLPE

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